

England's Democratic Princess to Tour European Capitals



Prince of Wales So Overworked His Sister Is Assuming Part of the Burden of Appearing in Public Ceremonials

good manners?" the princess came back without an instant's hesitation, skillfully disentangling her boat and leaving a very awed young man in complete silence.

Twice Reported Engaged

Twice already has England's princess been erroneously reported engaged to be married. The first time was in 1915, when she was but eighteen, when rumor had it that she was to marry Prince Eric of Denmark, a youth about her own age, who was then expected to become "King of Poland." The rumor proved unfounded; the war further changed the map of Europe, and the question of a Polish king was dropped.

In May, 1919, a London daily announced that it was able to state that Princess Mary was engaged to marry the Earl of Dalkeith, son of the seventh Duke of Buccleuch, twenty-five years of age, a lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards. This was hailed as a sign of the new democracy, when a royal princess should marry outside royalty. The report was at once denied from Buckingham Palace, and the incident closed with a retraction by the paper.

The number of young unmarried men among European royalty is rapidly dwindling; none of the royal princes of other houses has been mentioned lately as eligible for the

hand of Princess Mary. The princess herself is active in various sorts of work, and shows no disposition to take the occasional rumors of her impending marriage seriously.

Princess Mary is shortly to leave England on a tour of the European capitals. She will visit Paris, Brussels, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Christiania, and possibly Rome and Madrid. Since her brother, the Prince of Wales, has become overworked, with trips everywhere, investitures, opening bazaars, laying cornerstones and other manual labor designed for royalty, Princess Mary has come to his relief. She attends many functions devoted to English women; she is herself commandant of the Girl Guides of England and frequently takes part in their meetings.

During the war England's princess did valiant service as a V. A. D. She studied and became fully qualified as a nurse. She spent three days of each of her busy weeks ministering to the wounded at Devonshire House. She was also honorary colonel of a crack English regiment, and handed out decorations to heroes with all the graciousness of her parents and brother.

Expert With a Needle

Needlework is one of Princess Mary's fortes. When a little girl she learned to sew expertly. When war came and with it the need of all sorts of clothing for soldiers and for the poor she personally made many garments, which were distributed

It was necessary to conceal from the recipients the origin of these gifts, otherwise, such is the love the English poor have for their princess, they would have framed them for the front parlor, but never worn them.

Queen Mary did not believe in her daughter being educated entirely alone; it was impracticable to send her to a public school, so a dozen or more young ladies of the court were invited to attend lessons with her. They also had classes in sewing, and on one occasion turned out more than 240 worth for a charity bazaar, all with their own hands.

Dancing had always been a bone of contention with the royal families of England; some rulers have approved it, others have not. When the princess was a little girl the dispute was raging. She learned to dance, however, and now that democracy has triumphed and dancing is permitted to princesses she is the most graceful and naturally the most sought after of partners at the balls which are given to court society.

A princess might have all the qualities possessed by Princess Mary and yet not be popular with the people. Yet it is an undisputed fact that just as the Prince of Wales is the most popular young man in the British Empire, so is Princess Mary the most popular young lady. It is not because they are "royalty"; it is a question of that subtle, intangible thing called "personality."

From The Tribune's European Bureau

IN THE olden days they used to have a minstrel with a zither to sing the praises of the princess. A reporter with a typewriter makes a pretty poor substitute. But, despite the limitations of the twentieth century, I would sing of the Princess Mary, only daughter of their majesties the King and Queen of England, an outdoor princess, who rides and rows and renders valuable assistance to her parents and her brothers, the princes, in making the royal family one of the most popular institutions of this democratic country.

Princess Victoria Alexandra Alice Mary will be twenty-three years of age on April 25 next. She was born in the year of the memorable Diamond Jubilee of her great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, then ruling over the British Empire. During her brief life she has been great-granddaughter, granddaughter and daughter of the reigning queens and monarchs of England, yet today she is hailed by all her countrymen as the perfect type of all-round English girl, fresh, unspoiled, with that inherent love for the great outdoors which is the most attractive characteristic of Britain's daughters.

In Line for the Throne

"Princess Mary," they used to call her in those days when she was a bonny little blue-eyed tot at York Cottage, Sandringham, her birthplace. Her father, the present King George, was then only the eldest son of the then Prince of Wales, later to become King Edward VII, so the mantle of royalty did not weigh too heavily upon her tiny shoulders. Nevertheless, she was in direct line for the throne, so the



PRINCESS MARY in the uniform of a Girl Guide, the meetings of which she frequently attends. Beside her is Sir Robert Baden Powell

present Queen saw to it that her education was all that a princess's should be. Mme. Dussau was appointed governess for the little princess, and though she never went to school she was taught more sub-

At the left is Princess Mary in the uniform of a nurse, the right to wear which she won during the war. In the center are the Queen and Princess Mary and at the right is the Princess in her latest formal photograph

Mary learned early to speak French, German and Italian, the first two languages with a fluency unexcelled by her grandmother. Besides these she dabbled in Spanish, Norse and Danish.

But her schooling was of the all-round variety: geography, music, art, science, needlework, sports, swimming, dancing—there seems to be no limit to this royal young lady's accomplishments.

Behold her to-day, in her twenty-third year, fair-haired, with deep blue eyes and the high pink complexion for which the most beautiful of English girls are famous; of medium height, with a well-balanced figure which is almost girlishly lithe and not quite athletically rounded.

Princess Mary is an ardent athlete. She plays cricket, bowling with the best of them and wielding a dangerous bat when her side is "in"; she drives and rides, plays a good game of tennis and a bad game of golf; she is a really expert swimmer and can paddle her own canoe. Which leads us to the inevitable anecdote.

Princess Mary was boating on the Thames. So were some young and vivacious boys from Eton College. The two skiffs collided, whereupon one of the youngsters arose and in a loud voice which shocked the princess's chaperone, who was some distance away, demanded:

"Say! Why didn't your mother teach you how to row before she let you out?"

"Why didn't yours teach you

Books for the Children of France

UP THE imposing marble steps of the Boston Public Library a little boy toiled. A man passing turned and looked at him, looked again, then followed him up the steps and past the custodian at the door. Down the wide corridor the little boy trotted as though in his own home, till he brought up at the children's room, with its gay pictures, attractive, child-size furniture and rows upon rows of tempting books.

The boy sought out his favorite

New York libraries; he brought his colleagues, he gathered statistics and conferred with library authorities, but he never lost the first feeling of awe with which he gazed at the little Boston youngster as he entered his kingdom of books.

Due partly to the aroused understanding of the Belgian delegates, but more largely to the quiet efforts of a group of American women, all of them fond of children, fond of books and deeply sympathetic with the starved childhood of the Belgian and French youngsters, a movement to give

these children typical libraries, modeled on those in this country, has for some time been gathering force.

Before Dr. Sand and Mlle. E. C. Carter, the Belgian representatives at the Child Welfare Council, came into personal contact with Mrs. John Lewis Griffiths, chairman of the book committee of the Art War Relief, the movement to establish this permanent tribute to the Allied forces had been for some time under way. With the enthusiastic cooperation of the foreign visitors the plans for the first library to be

opened—abroad they call it "L'Heure Joyeuse" (the happy hour)—have been completed; a site in the historic Ville of Brussels has been given, the first consignment of books has reached Mlle. Carter, now in charge, and with the arrival of the specially designed furniture and final equipment the first children's library "on the American plan" will open its doors to the book-hungry children of Belgium.

Thanks to the children of this country, many such "happy hours" may be founded.

"It is not only the adults who



Gray Samaritans to Poland's Aid

POLAND'S Battalion of Death isn't her only band of clear-eyed, patriotic and courageous young women. Twenty girls in blue-gray uniforms have started a campaign of their own in the middle of their war-bled country—a campaign against poverty, hunger, cold and disease, which the war has brought. These girls are Polish by birth and ancestry. Their hearts are pledged to the cause of Free Poland. Their devotion to the mother country is none the less complete and unselfish because some of them are American citizens, and all of them are Americans by adoption, brought up, educated and trained for their present service in the United States.

These girls call themselves Polish Gray Samaritans. Their fathers and mothers came to America from Poland in search of freedom for themselves and their children. Poland, under Russian, Austrian and German dominion, had little to offer the young people of her country, and

so the more progressive of them went out to find their opportunity in a freer land. Deep in their hearts they still held to their love of the mother country, and they passed on this love to their children, along with a loyalty to the America which had adopted them. The dream of a free and united Poland, cherished through generations of Poles, was as real to this second generation of Poles in America as to their cousins in the old country.

So when the war released Poland from the domination of her more powerful neighbors, and brought to her, with her freedom, such poverty and suffering as almost no other country has known, many of the daughters of these Polish Americans were filled at once with the desire to go to her aid.

They were more far-sighted than many young people who are inspired to go and do for a suffering people. They were willing to devote time and energy to prepare themselves for real usefulness.

On July 31, 1919, they left this

country, accompanied by four Y. W. C. A. secretaries. Their journey, especially the part of it that took them through Germany, was fraught with many difficulties and occupied nearly two months.

Poland knew practically nothing of trained social workers until the Samaritans came. These twenty girls, some of them only nineteen years old, were looked upon with wonder and awe by the people of Warsaw, where they were concentrated on their arrival in Poland. This awe was increased tenfold when the people realized that these girls spoke Polish and were themselves Poles.

Their work in Warsaw is under the Polish government. It includes nearly all of the many kinds of social service for which their training under the Y. W. C. A. prepared them—district visiting, soup kitchens, child welfare work. They visit the homes of Polish soldiers who are at the front or who have been killed or wounded in the war

and report cases of actual want to the authorities. They conduct ten soup kitchens, financed by the government, to feed the pitifully weak, undernourished little children who wander about the streets. They have taken over several nurseries in Warsaw, where in the first three weeks of their management the death rate was reduced 50 per cent. Latest letters report that small groups of them have recently gone out to Lemberg and Minsk to conduct food kitchens for the distribution of American food furnished by the Hoover committee, and to distribute also the clothing sent from America.

Ten more Polish Gray Samaritans are on their way to Warsaw. They have left Coblenz, and are on their way through Germany, according to the last dispatch received from them. They probably will relieve the members of the first unit who are in Warsaw so that these more experienced workers can proceed to other parts of Poland, where conditions are even more difficult and the need greater.

ABOVE is a story hour in the devastated district of France. Mrs. John Lewis Griffiths is chairman of the book committee. Little Miss Verity Burnett, granddaughter of Frances Hodgson Burnett, was the first contributor to the fund.

realize that books help to build for the future, who are striving to make "L'Heure Joyeuse" a reality," said Mrs. Griffiths. "The children themselves, who see only the appalling fact that there are other children who have never heard of Red Riding Hood or Snow White, are also helping all they can."

"Through our 'Penny Up Fund,' as it is called, children are uniting for this purpose. Anything from a penny up is gratefully accepted, and 'penny up clubs' are being formed throughout the country."

"First in contributing to the 'Penny Up Fund' is a young lady who would naturally be expected to take a deep interest in literary matters—Miss Verity Burnett, granddaughter of Frances Hodgson Burnett, whose books for and about children have charmed two generations. Verity started her philanthropic career by presenting three hoarded pennies, and promised more as her exchequer received it."